

JAN 29 2007

Appln. No. 10/782,100
Amendment dated January 29, 2007
Reply to Office Action mailed October 31, 2006

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Entry of the above amendments is courteously requested in order to place all claims in this application in allowable condition and/or to place the non-allowed claims in better condition for consideration on appeal.

Claims 1 through 6, 8 and 9 remain in this application. Claim 2, 3, 5, 6, and 7 have been cancelled. No claims have been withdrawn or added.

Paragraphs 1 through 4 of the Office Action

Claims 1 through 5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Viazanko.

Claim 8 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Viazanko in view of Stokes.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the requirements of claims 2, 3, 5 and 6, which was indicated as being in condition for allowance in the Office Action, and therefore claim 1, as well as claims 4 and 8 which depend from claim 1, are submitted to be in condition for allowance.

Withdrawal of the §102(b) and §103(a) rejection of claims 1, 4 and 8 is therefore respectfully requested.

Paragraph 5 of the Office Action

Paragraph 5 of the Office Action states that claim 8 would be allowable if written into independent form with the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The above amendment incorporates the limitations of claim 1 (in its as-filed form) into the recitation of claim 9, and therefore claim 9 is believed to be in condition for allowance.

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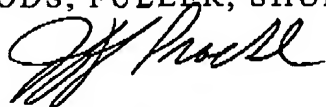
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CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, early reconsideration and allowance of this application are most courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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